

The Fire Fighter Gazette

Issue 20

November 2000

DoD Fire and Emergency Services Conference a Success!

Speakers were dynamic, and provided instruction on a wide variety of subjects, including some new and interesting topics such as *Managing Generation X*.

The Annual Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Services Conference in Dallas this past August was another great success! Kudos to CMSgt **Jim Podolske** and the AFCESA staff for making the conference informational and very professional. The conference began with Major Air Command meetings on Thursday and Friday, went into the weekend, which included International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) activities and the exhibits of fire fighting equipment and tools, then the meetings began in earnest on Monday. A joint session was held with all of DoD, as well as an Air Force-specific set of meetings. Speakers were dynamic, and provided instruction on a wide variety of subjects, including some new and interesting topics such as *Managing Generation X*. Chief **Alan Brunacini** (Phoenix Fire Chief) also spoke on customer service, and for those of you who know Chief "Bruno", you know he was very entertaining! By far, the highlight of the conference was the DoD Fire and Emergency Services Awards Banquet on 30 August 2000. This festive evening began with a social hour, which gave fire chiefs from all of the component services an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss issues within their respective services. It was great to see such a large turnout for this



The Fallen Fire Fighter Ceremony at the DoD Awards Banquet was riveting.

dinner. The event started promptly at 7:00 pm with the posting of the colors by the Air Force Academy Fire Department Color Guard (*see photo, page 2*). The fallen fire fighter ceremony was a superb tribute to our comrades who dedicated their lives to helping others, and made the ultimate sacrifice. Following the solemn ceremony, was an excellent presentation by the Air Force Drill Team. The drill team is the traveling component of the USAF honor guard commanded by Lt Colonel Bradley Spacy and is assigned to the 11th Wing, Bolling AFB, Washington DC. Just before dinner, the distinguished guests were introduced, and included: Mr. Gary Vest, Principal Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security), **Major General William Bowdon**, Commander,

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Department of Defense Fire Conference ...

Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area and Commanding General Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, **Brigadier General Kelvin Coppock**, Director Of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Strategic Command, **Colonel Bruce Barthold**, Commander, Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, **Mr. Craig Schilder**, Department of Defense Assistant for Safety in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security, **Chief Luther Fincher**, Immediate Past President, International Association of Fire Chiefs, and **Chief Michael Brown**, President, International Association of Fire Chiefs. After dinner, Mr. Gary Vest gave the keynote speech to the crowd of fire service professionals. Mr. Vest is the Principal Assistant Deputy under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security. He is responsible for establishing policy for, and overseeing the implementation of all worldwide environmental, safety, occupational health, explosive safety, pest management, and fire and emergency services matters for the department of defense. After a superb speech, a musical presentation was provided by the Air National Guard Band of the South Central United States. The band provided a mixture of both country *and* western music, and was enjoyed by all. The culmination of the evening is what we were all waiting for — the presentation of the DoD annual awards. This year's winners are identified to the right;

all of the nominees are listed on page 5 of this edition of the *FF Gazette*. Overall, the conference was a smashing success. The speakers were superb, the transition between workshops was seamless, and the Air Force luncheon and DoD Awards Banquet were great. Next year's conference (hosted by the Navy and Marine Corps) in New Orleans promises to be just as good!

Thanks to Don Warner, AFRC Command Chief, for the majority of the photos on this page!



SrA Ortiz-Acevedo (left) and SSgt Tills celebrate their “back - to-back” success as DoD Military Fire Fighter of the Year.



The Air
Force
Academy
Fire
Department
Color
Guard (l-r):

Travis Perkins

SSgt Mike
Mullane

SSgt Eric
Wentworth

Elaine Perkins



MSgt Michael Cavaliero, receiving the DoD Fire Department of the Year Award from Mr. Vest! (Ramstein AB, GE)



SrA Luis Ortiz-Acevedo — DoD Military Fire Fighter of the Year (Air Force Academy, CO)



Mr. Glenn Zureck—DoD Civilian Fire Fighter of the Year (from Camp Lejeune, NC)



Specialist Paul DeWitt — DoD Heroism Award Winner (Fort Rucker, AL)

Recommended for Accreditation

Recently, the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) visited the Air Force Academy Fire Department to determine if they should be considered for accreditation.

The CFAI was created to provide a comprehensive system of fire and emergency service evaluation to help determine risks and fire safety needs, evaluate the performance of the organization involved, and provide a method for continuous improvement. They were established as an independent, non-profit entity in 1996.

The Air Force Academy fire department accreditation process was initiated in October 1998, and involved providing answers and exhibits to 233 competencies, ranging from risk assessment to staffing and equipment. The inspection team, consisting of four fire officials from throughout the United States, visited our fire department twice and inspected those 233 competencies in June and October 2000.

At the end of their second visit, the Air Force Academy was notified that the fire department would be recommended for accreditation. The team leader will forward the report to the CFAI, who will review it at their next board meeting (March, 2001). At that point, the commission will certify the Academy Fire Department as an *accredited fire agency*.

This process is similar to hospital and childcare center accreditation, and fire service agencies throughout the world are considering this process to evaluate their programs. To date, only 36 agencies have been accredited in the world! The Air Force Academy fire department is the first in the Air Force to be recommended for accreditation, while the Navy has two fire departments that have been accredited (NAS Jacksonville and Keflavik).

Can you identify the fire chief in this photo? Hint: he is the one on the far left. Send your guess to: richard.duncan@usafa.af.mil



Classes at the Air Force Academy

The Air Force Academy Fire Department is hosting two seminars in November/December. These seminars are in direct support of the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's (CFAI) Fire Department Accreditation Program.

Peer Assessor Training, 30 November.

This training is designed for individuals involved in the accreditation process already, and will prepare you to become a site visit team member. The pre-requisite for this course is that you have attended a self-assessment workshop, and that you have completed a Personal Resource Inventory. The cost of this seminar is \$125.00. Contact the CFAI for additional information and registration: (703) 691-4620, or visit their web site: www.cfainet.org

Standard of Response Coverage / RHAVE, 1 December.

This free seminar will assist fire department with risk assessment, and the development of a Standard of Response Coverage document. The RHAVE (Risk, Hazard, and Value Evaluation) software will provide a manner in which to assess risk in the structures within your response jurisdiction. There are no pre-requisites for this course, although seating is limited. To sign up for this course, please e-mail your intentions to: ernst.piercy@usafa.af.mil

Both courses will be held at the USAF Academy Community Center Theater.



Fire Chief Vacancy

The Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base, (NAS JRB) New Orleans is currently recruiting for the position of Fire Chief, GS-0081-12. This position directs all aspects of general fire protection (both structural and aircraft rescue firefighting), hazardous materials response services, a comprehensive fire prevention and safety awareness program, and an airfield emergency arresting gear maintenance program for NAS JRB and tenant commands.

NAS JRB New Orleans is located in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, which is approximately 10 miles from the heart of New Orleans. The base is host to a number of state and federal government activities, which include the US Air Force, US Marine Corps, Louisiana National Guard, US Coast Guard, and US Customs. Aircraft serviced at NAS JRB includes large, complex, highly sophisticated aircraft (fighters, bombers, cargo, passenger and helicopters).

In addition to meeting minimum qualification requirements established by the Office of Personnel Management, applicants for this position must meet Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Certification Program requirements for Fire Chief (Fire Officer IV, Fire Inspector II, Fire Instructor II, and HAZMAT Incident Commander). This activity has no intervening GS-11 in the organization; therefore, GS-10 experience may qualify, provided the applicant meets the DOD certification requirements.

Applicants for this position should follow the instructions on the attached announcement to apply for this vacancy. You may apply directly on-line for this position by visiting the website at donhr.navy.mil (Southeast), and following the instructions given at the bottom of vacancy announcement number SE-0081. We recommend applicants apply using email, sending your application and Applicant Data Sheet to wantajob@se.hroc.navy.mil. The resume and applicant data sheet must be in the body of the email (attachments will not be accepted). Applicants will receive a receipt response via email or a message returning the resume if it is not acceptable, along with a reason. We also recommend the applicant keep a copy of the receipt response for their records.

POC for questions about this vacancy is Liz Elder, Personnel Management Specialist, HRO New Orleans, DSN 678-2561 or commercial (504) 678-2561 elder@hro.nola.navy.mil. {note: this position will be open until 31 December, 2000}

Here are some pictures from the best fire department in Department of Defense (Ramstein AB):



Do you have your new copy of DoDM 6055.6? If not, you might want to go to the web and check it out, since it went into effect on 1 June, 2000. One of the clarifications this document provides you is a better definition of an entry level fire fighter, and what their qualifications should be: *Entry level fire fighters (GS-3 and GS-4 fire fighters) must successfully complete any and all required training, to include being certified at the Fire Fighter I and II levels and Airport Fire Fighter level, if applicable, within a maximum of 12 months. DoD Hazardous Materials Awareness is a prerequisite for the Fire Fighter I and DoD Hazardous Materials Operations is a prerequisite for the Fire Fighter II and Airport Fire Fighter certification levels.*

Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Services Annual Award Nominees



The following is a complete list of the Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Services Annual Award Nominees — all winners within their respective services (DoD winners italicized):

Fire Department of the Year:

Holston Army Ammunition Plant, Kingsport, TN
Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL
Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, San Diego, CA
Ramstein Air Base, Germany
Coast Guard Training Center, Petaluma CA
Defense Supply Center, Richmond, VA

Military Fire Fighter of the Year:

Sgt Jerry J. Conner, Fort Drum, NY
Corporal Joseph A. Charley, Jr., Quantico, VA
SrA Luis F. Ortiz-Acevedo, Air Force Academy, CO
DC 2nd Class John M. Glaz, Kodiak, AK

Civilian Fire Fighter of the Year:

Joshua Diede, Hawthorne Army Depot, NV
Douglas M. Thomas, Jacksonville Naval Air Station, FL
Glenn Zureck, Camp Lejeune, NC
Ronald Winham, Altus AFB, OK
Gerald E. Searson, Kodiak, AK
Harold Mara, Defense Distribution Depot, San Joaquin, CA

Heroism Award Nominees:

Army: Specialist Paul A. Dewitt, Fort Rucker, AL

Navy: Jeff Steere; Dale Hal; Jim Lucas; Jim Webster; John Frampton; John Smithgal (all from Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base, Willow Grove, PA).

Air Force: MSgt Mark Norris (Eglin AFB, FL); SrA Trevor Elson (McClellan AFB); SrA Sean Kirkeby (Randolph AFB, TX); SrA Michael Kiel & SrA Rory Shaffer (both from McChord AFB, WA); and SrA Stephen Johnson & SrA Rudolf Kreybig, Jr. (both from Sheppard AFB, TX).

Congratulations to each of the
winners!

To call, or not to call, that is the question...

(Note: written for a base article, feel free to localize & re-print)

What happens when you call 911? How are your calls processed? Most people call 911 only once or twice in their lifetime, so we provided some information that may help answer some of those questions.

When calling 911, the dispatcher will answer "Air Force Academy 911, where is your emergency?" All 911 calls from government, residential, and coin operated phones on the Academy are routed to the 911 Dispatch Center at Fire Station 3. The Academy Fire Department operates an Enhanced 911 system. This system allows the dispatcher to display the phone number and address the phone is registered to, and in the case of residential phones, the name of the occupant. The reason for this is in case communication is lost, the dispatcher will have an address to send emergency responders to. If the caller hangs up before any questions are asked, the dispatcher can attempt to call back. If there is no answer, Security Forces will be requested to do a "welfare check" of the facility or residence to which that phone is registered. **If you dial 911 by mistake--Do Not Hang-up!** If you have a medical emergency, the dispatcher will ask a series of questions to establish consciousness, breathing, age, and what the exact problem is. The dispatcher will send fire and medical units to your location. In most cases, the dispatcher will stay on the line with the calling party, until the arrival of emergency assistance. What if the incident isn't medical, but law enforcement related? Once the dispatcher establishes that this is a police matter, and that the caller is safe and out of danger, the call will be transferred to the Law Enforcement Desk. And if you're not sure? Call 911. What if you need to speak to the Colorado Springs authorities to report an emergency off base? You can still call 911, we will transfer you to the appropriate agency. Seems like everyone has cellular phones these days, and yes, you can call 911 from a cell phone, however, the call is automatically answered by the Sheriff's Office, and then re-routed back to the Academy 911 Dispatch Office. This will create a delay. If you are reporting an incident on base, it is important to call from a government, residence or a coin-operated phone. In the future the capability will exist for cellular phones to access the Academy's E-911 system; when that occurs the dispatcher will be able to "pin-point" the callers location to within 40 feet. High-Tech? You bet! Expensive? Yes, but the fifty cents a month on your phone bill helps fund these improvements. So you are part owner of the Enhanced 911 (E-911) system here at the Academy. By calling 911 you are participating in a "Zero-Minute Response" activity. Between the caller and the E-911 dispatcher, we can assist in getting help on the way. Remember, "**We Can Do This Together!**" Use the E-911 system, it is there for **YOU!** Teach your children that if they feel frightened, to call 911. We are here 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week, and are glad to help. If someone in your family or office is hearing impaired and has access to a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), we can access and respond to TDD transmissions. Foreign language is no problem, the E-911 Dispatch Center has access to translators 24/7 — while we are on the call with you, help is already on the way. If you would like to see the 911 technology in action, call us, and the on-duty dispatcher will be glad to arrange a tour of the Dispatch Center!

Phoenix Fire Department Symposium

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Second Annual Captain's Symposium "Role of the Company Officer" presented by Luke AFB and Phoenix Fire Department. This two-day event held at the conference center of the Phoenix Zoo was designed to fill the void in company officer training. The tone was set early by **Chief Sanders** from Luke AFB giving an overview of the symposium, and stressing the serious need for company officer training. Nearly 200 firefighters from around the nation attended the symposium which was broken into several workshop type briefings. Each block of instruction was taught by a senior fire officer from Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, or Luke AFB Fire Department. The workshops highlighted a different area of concern for current and perspective leaders in fire ground operations. Officer development, safety, incident planning, sector leadership, and tactical planning were the main topics. First hand accounts of major incidents by the instructors added greatly to the credibility and understanding of the material. When members of what is commonly considered the best fire department in America speak, you are much more inclined to listen. A common thread through all eight seminars was the need to reevaluate our firefighting posture. Are we fighting defensive fires from an offensive posture? The incident planning session, taught by Battalion Chief Bobby Miller of Mesa Fire Department, was outstanding. Their system of assigning critical fire ground factors a numeric value simplified the decision making process. The factors of rescue profile, fire stage, savable property, and firefighter danger were assigned a value of 1 to 5. The values would help assess hazards and bring into focus what level of risk officers should take. Battalion Chief Miller made the point that we need to get past the firefighter bravado and not needlessly put our firefighters at risk. He stated "It is not worth sending a firefighter home in a body bag today to save what will be hauled off in a dump truck tomorrow". Without going in-depth into each area of instruction, it became apparent that even a city the size of Phoenix wrestles with

many of the same problems that we in the Air Force face. I think we would do well to learn from their mistakes and adopt many of their programs. They have worked through the tough issues such as 2 in/2 out to include a good fix for Rapid Intervention Crews. They all spoke of past waves hitting the fire service such as EMS, Haz-Mat, and Safety. It was suggested that the next few years could see a trend towards reevaluation of our offensive/defensive posture and how much risk is necessary to save property. It was put into context by chief Alan Brunacini himself, "We have not invented any new ways of killing firefighters so maybe we need to look at the way we fight fires". The death of 100+ firefighters a year is still too many, and this training went a long way to change the way we attack fires. Those are just some of the highlights of the symposium, and just getting the opportunity to meet Chief Brunacini was worth the trip. Phoenix Fire Department has taken the lead in many new areas of fire protection. They have felt the growing pains many times over and are more than willing to share their mistakes, successes, and written plans with any who want them. This Symposium was without a doubt the best and most interesting training I have had in recent memory. The organizational excellence displayed by Phoenix and surrounding departments would make even a fortune 500 company jealous. The pride and professionalism exhibited by all members of this instructor team and the fire departments from the valley of the sun made this event more than worth the time and money. I applaud my fire chief, **Duane Morgan** and commander **Lt Col Brackett** for having the foresight to let me attend this cutting edge training. I would encourage all departments to set aside some TDY funds and send your crew chiefs and assistant chiefs to next year's symposium, but you better register early, as the class numbers have doubled from the first year.

SMSgt Todd Nielsen, Deputy Chief, Scott AFB

CDC Message

1. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS INFORMATION TO EACH FIRE PROTECTION FLIGHT IN YOUR COMPONENT/COMMAND AND ASK THEM TO PROVIDE A COURTESY COPY OF THIS MESSAGE TO THEIR UNIT TRAINING MANAGER WHERE APPLICABLE.

A. EFFECTIVE 20 MAR 00, THE FOLLOWING FIRE PROTECTION SPECIALTY (3E7X1) CAREER DEVELOPMENT COURSES (CDC'S) WERE DEACTIVATED AND ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE EXCEPT FOR FIRE FIGHTERS WHO WERE ENROLLED IN THESE COURSES PRIOR TO THE 20 MAR 00 EFFECTIVE DATE.

B. THE COURSES THAT HAVE BEEN DEACTIVATED ARE:

- (1) CDC 3E751B - DRIVER/OPERATOR PUMPER
- (2) CDC 3E751C - DRIVER/OPERATOR AERIAL
- (3) CDC 3E751D - DRIVER OPERATOR ARFF
- (4) CDC 3E751F - DRIVER/OPERATOR TILLER.

C. THE NEW COURSES THAT REPLACED THE COURSES LISTED ABOVE ARE:

- (1) CDC 10023 AND 10023G - DRIVER/OPERATOR PUMPER
- (2) CDC 10024 AND 10024G - DRIVER/OPERATOR AERIAL
- (3) CDC 10025 AND 10025G - DRIVER/OPERATOR TILLER
- (4) CDC 10027 AND 10027G - DRIVER/OPERATOR ARFF
- (5) CDC 10028 AND 10028G - DRIVER/OPERATOR MOBILE WATER SUPPLY APPARATUS.

D. THE NEW COURSES HAVE BEEN ACCREDITED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ACCREDITATION CONGRESS AND MEET THE 1998 EDITION OF NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION STANDARD 1002, STANDARD ON FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER/OPERATOR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

E. AIR FORCE FIRE FIGHTERS COMPLETING FIVE LEVEL UPGRADE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS MUST ORDER THE 10023 OR 10023G - DRIVER OPERATOR PUMPER AND 10027 OR 10027G - DRIVER OPERATOR ARFF COURSES AT THE SAME TIME AND THE TRAINEE ONLY HAS ONE YEAR TO COMPLETE BOTH MANDATORY COURSES.

F. CERTEST CERTIFICATION COURSE REVIEW EXERCISES FOR ALL FIVE DRIVER/OPERATOR COURSES CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT THE HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER SUPPORT AGENCY WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WWW.AFCESA.AF.MIL/DIRECTORATE/CEX/CERTEST/FIRE.HTML](http://WWW.AFCESA.AF.MIL/DIRECTORATE/CEX/CERTEST/FIRE.HTML).

2. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR POCS TSGT BRUCE GRABBE VIA EMAIL AT BRUCE.GRABBE@AFCESA.AF.MIL, OR BY PHONE AT DSN 523-6221, OR TSGT RALPH MCNEMAR AT RALPH.MCNEMAR@AFCESA.AF.MIL OR BY PHONE AT DSN 523-6158.

Fitness/Wellness

The new DoD Fitness/Wellness Program is still being discussed, but here is some "heads-up" information for you:

The program will have three essential components.

-- 1. **Fitness Training.** Fitness training with personalized exercise prescriptions is designed to improve firefighter cardiovascular conditioning/muscular strength and is considered the key ingredient necessary to pass the annual firefighter occupational fitness evaluation.

-- 2. **Occupational Assessment.** The assessment component requires firefighters to complete ten simulated fire fighting tasks on an obstacle course (circuit) wearing full protective clothing with breathing apparatus in a continuous and consecutive manner in 8 minutes or less. The ten tasks are as follows:

- Task 1. *One Arm Hose Carry.* Carry one 50 ft section of 2 ½ or 3-inch hose 100 ft.
- Task 2. *Ladder Raise.* Carry a 12 ft ladder a distance of 50 ft and raise it against a wall.
- Task 3. *Charged Hose Drag.* Drag a charged 1 ½ or 1 ¾ inch hose 100 ft.
- Task 4. *First Ladder Climb.* Climb a 24 ft ladder (10 rungs) three times.
- Task 5. *High Volume Hose Pull.* Pull a section of 4 ½ or 5-inch hose 100 ft.
- Task 6. *Forcible Entry.* Move a 225.5 lb tire 12 inches using a 10 lb sledgehammer.
- Task 7. *Victim Drag.* Drag a mannequin weighing 150 lbs 100 ft.
- Task 8. *Second Ladder Climb.* Climb a 24 ft ladders (10 rungs) twice.
- Task 9. *Ladder Lower.* Lower a 12 ft ladder and carry it a distance of 50 ft.
- Task 10. *Spreader Tool Carry.* Carry an 80 lb spreader tool (Hurst-style tool) 100 ft.

-- 3. **Wellness.** The wellness component will provide employee assistance and encourage firefighters to make permanent lifestyle changes. The wellness component thrust areas include: tobacco use (smoking) prevention and cessation, nutrition, stress management (including critical incident stress), alcohol and drug abuse prevention, and early identification of hypertension.

Careers Information

The Civil Engineer Career Program office is running a list server. We are encouraging all registrants to subscribe to this service. We will send out messages covering a variety of issues relevant to you and your career. We will also use the list server as one of the methods to announce some covered position vacancies, to hot link to our Periodic Activity Report (PAR) and to link to other important announcements. Subscribers to the CECP list server will automatically receive an email message whenever new information is disseminated. Here is how you can subscribe to the list:

- 1) Send an email to: majordomo@listsrv.afpc.randolph.af.mil
- 2) On the first line of the message type: subscribe cecp
- 3) Delete your auto signature block (if active) and any other text.
- 4) Send the message.
- 5) Two emails will come back:
 - a) One email will say that someone is trying to subscribe this email address.
 - b) The other email will have an authorization code and instructions on what to send back to the list server.
- 6) Send back the authorization code as instructed. Again delete your auto signature block and any other text.
- 7) Two emails will come back.
 - a) One email will tell you that you have successfully subscribed to the list.
 - b) The other email will welcome you to the list.

To date, over 600 registrants have subscribed to our server. Please share this new service with co-workers. We have already used the server to announce some job vacancies. Additional information will be made available on our web site; <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/cecp/>

Good-Bye....

I want to thank all of you for a great 20 years in the Air Force, I am not going to say good bye because I am hoping to eventually send you another email some day giving you my new address. But my leaving did result in some other people picking up a few additional duties:

CMSgt Rivera is now the POC for NFPA 1500, Halon, and ACES-FD (by the way, what does ACES stand for???)

CMSgt Glover is going to keep the Key Personnel roster updated to the best of his ability.

Mr Hotell or Mr Hall will be the POC for the manpower standard.

I hope I have not promised somebody something and forgot to deliver. I really do appreciate all of the support you have given me not only here, but also while I was at HQ AFSPC.

Thanks, *Mark Captain*

Looking for information!

CMSgt Carl Glover at HQ AFCEA is looking for names / information concerning on-duty USAF firefighter deaths. Request anyone with information, news articles, etc send the information to:

carl.glover@afcesa.af.mil

Public Information Officer (PIO) Tips

INTERVIEW TIPS

- Be prepared. Write down your notes and review them before the interview.
- Be concise.
- Use action verbs and colorful descriptions.
- Be honest. If you don't know, say so!
- Take advantage of opportunities to promote FD and human interest stories
- Remember, everything is on the record
- Be courteous and helpful to the media.
- Be yourself!
- If you need help, call for the on-duty PIO.

FIRE INFORMATION

- Address/Unit Number
- Cause of fire
- Damage from fire
- Injuries
- Name of occupant/owner
- Conditions on arrival
- Response times/time under control
- Specifics of operations
- Fire prevention issues
- Unusual hazards/problems
- Relocation of residents
- Number of FD units at incident
- Human interest/exceptional performance

EMS INFORMATION

- Names of patients (if known)
- Injuries
- Treatment provided
- Specifics of operations
- Unusual hazards/problems
- Human interest/exceptional performance

HAZMAT INFORMATION

- Types and quantity of chemicals
- Hazards to public/environment
- Cause of release
- Specifics of operations
- Area evacuated
- Anticipated length of operation
- Number of FD units
- Human interest/exceptional performance